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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Piano Cleveland partners with Cleveland Museum of Natural History for free concert series featuring young pianists**

**CLEVELAND, OH** - In partnership with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Piano Cleveland will present a series of nine free community concerts at the Museum from July 21 through August 1. Featuring pianists from the Cleveland International Piano Competition and Institute for Young Artists, the concerts are free and open to the public. All concerts will be held in the Museum's Visitor Hall, a free community space where guests can gather, explore, and connect with science.

In total, the competition will bring 13 Semi-Finalists and around 20 Institute students to Cleveland for the last two weeks of July. The Semi-Finalists will play in a total of four competition events while Institute students will receive instruction from the panel of musicians and industry professionals who also comprise the competition jury. "Our partnership with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History is especially exciting because it gives our international participants performance opportunities in a world-class space while contributing to the museum's impactful community programming."

"We are proud to partner with Piano Cleveland on this free concert series celebrating exceptional young artists," said Meenakshi Sharma, Acting President & CEO of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. "This collaboration reflects our shared commitment to access, creativity, and meaningful community experiences."

The Cleveland International Piano Competition for Young Artists Semi-Finalists will perform in the Museum's Visitor Hall in the week leading up to the competition on the following days:

Tuesday, July 21 | Noon

Wednesday, July 22 | Noon



Once the competition is underway, the students of the Cleveland International Piano Institute will take over the series with free concerts in the Visitor Hall on the following days:

Friday, July 24 | Noon  
Tuesday, July 28 | Noon  
Wednesday, July 29 | Noon  
Thursday, July 30 | Noon  
Friday, July 31 | Noon

The competition concludes on Friday evening with the Final Concerto Round, performed with the Canton Symphony Orchestra. Cleveland audiences will then have the unique opportunity to see the newly minted winners of the 2026 Cleveland International Piano Competition for Young Artists in one last free concert, also held in the Museum's Visitor Hall on Saturday, August 1 at noon.

Contestant biographical information, repertoire, and a full timeline of the Semi-Final and Final Rounds, as well as information about the free concerts taking place from July 24 - August 1, in Cleveland, Ohio, are available at [pianocleveland.org](http://pianocleveland.org).

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## About Piano Cleveland

Piano Cleveland promotes Cleveland as a premier piano destination by presenting world-class programming, community engagement, and education initiatives. The organization's four major programs and events include the Cleveland International Piano Competition, the CIPC for Young Artists, a mixed-genre piano festival, and year-round education and community engagement programming.